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January 07, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley,

I write respectfully to express my unqualified endorsement of Debo Adegbile to serve as Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice. Mr. Adegbile, whom I have known since childhood, is an ideal choice to lead the Department's civil rights mission and I see no reason for the Committee on the Judiciary to hesitate in reporting his nomination to the full Senate for consideration and confirmation.

I was for more than 12 years an Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. I served as a chief of that office's terrorism unit and prosecuted Zacarias Moussaoui, who remains the only member of al Qaeda held criminally responsible for the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. I regularly worked with Department leadership, often at its highest levels.

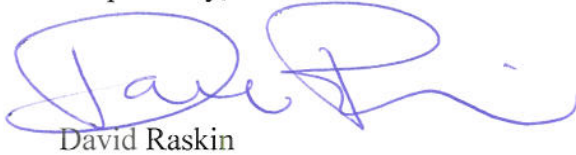
I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Adegbile for more than 30 years, since we were high school classmates. He is a person of flawless character whose commitment to excellence has always featured clear judgment, sharp intellect and even temperament. His professional accomplishments, of which there are many, rightly place him among the preeminent civil rights litigators of his generation. I can say without equivocation that Mr. Adegbile has the right moral bearing, experience and skill to be one of the Department's finest leaders and I am confident he

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would make an excellent Assistant Attorney General. You would be hard pressed to find a more suitable and deserving candidate.

For these reasons, and without reservation, I encourage the Committee to report Mr. Adegbile's nomination to the full Senate.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Raskin", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

David Raskin